

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Meeting Minutes

Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting
May 19, 2006
Ocean Shore Conference Center
120 W. Chance a La Mer NW
Ocean Shores, Washington

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
NOAA, National Marine Sanctuary Program
115 E. Railroad Avenue, Suite 301
Port Angeles, WA 98362-2925
FAX # 360-457-8496

Reviewed by SAC Secretary

Reviewed by OCNMS Superintendent

Approved by SAC

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
May 19, 2006

Members Present:

Terrie Klinger, Research (Chair)
Tim Snowden, Hoh Tribe Alternate
Steve Joner, Makah Tribe
Joe Schumacker, Quinault Indian Nation
Jay Burns, Quileute Tribe
John Calambokidis, Research Alternate
Bill Arntz, Conservation
Fan Tsao, Conservative Alternate
Martha Hurd, Washington DNR (Secy.)
Rebecca Post, Dept. of Ecology Alternate
Bob Bohlman, Marine Industry
Hayden Street, U.S. Navy
Gene Woodwick, Education
Ellen Matheny, Education Alternate
Teresa Scott, Wash. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Kevin Ryan, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Doug Fricke, Commercial Fishing Alt.
Bob Morse, Citizen-at-Large
Diane Schostak, Tourism
Al Carter, Grays Harbor Co. Commissioner
Phil Johnson, Jefferson Co. Commissioner

Staff

Carol Bernthal, Superintendent
Andy Palmer, Coordinator
George Galasso, Asst. Mgr.
Robert Steelquist, Education /
Outreach Coordinator
Cheryl Sinclair, Recording Secretary

Guests/Public Attendees:

Polly Dyer, Olympic Coast Alliance
Elin Storey, Dept. of Ecology
Ken Mercer, Ocean Shores Director
of Tourism and Business Development
Curt Gavigan, Senate Natural Resources
Committee
Justin James, Quinault Indian Nation
John Clark
Annika VanDoornick
David Hurd

Governor's Ocean Policy Work Group:

Kathleen Drew, Governor's Policy Advisor
Sen. Dan Swecker
Rep. Maralyn Chase
John Dohrman, Puget Sound Action Team
Sarah Dzinbat, Dept. Natural Resources
Michelle Culver, Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Jennifer Hennessey, Dept. of Ecology
Ashley DeMoss, State Parks
John Hansen, UW School of Marine Affairs

Welcome

Chair Terrie Klinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ken Mercer, Director of Tourism and Business Development for Ocean Shores, welcomed OCNMS Advisory Council and gave a short verbal tour of Ocean Shores.

Agenda/Meeting Minutes

There were no changes to the agenda. Bill Arntz **moved** to adopt the minutes of the March 17,

2006 meeting as presented. Seconded and **approved**.

Member Report

Ellen Matheny reported that University of Washington School of Marine Affairs, together with Northwest Fishery Science Center, will be looking into the economic impacts on coastal communities by marine issues.

Governor's Ocean Policy Work Group

Kathleen Drew, Governor's Policy Advisor on Ocean Policy, Fish and Wildlife, Parks Sustainability and Climate Change, gave a brief overview of the work group's formation history and purposes for which the group was formed. Members of the group include representatives from several state agencies, Legislative members, local government officials, representative from OCNMS, and their work has been monitored by the four coastal Tribes and Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. Michelle Culver, Sarah Dzinbat, Jennifer Hennessey and Kathleen Drew outlined the areas being looked at by the work group in Marine Resource Stewardship; Ocean Research and Education; Coastal Hazards, Erosion and Climate Change; Coastal Economic Development; Governance.

Addressing the issue of **Governance**, the following questions and/or comments were posed to the work group: 1) A desire to see an "ocean czar" within the state to be the contact person and person to facilitate and ensure that what needs to get done gets done and may need to include a state rep and tribal rep. 2) Have the state act under the Coastal Zone Management Act to bring all the stakeholders together to formulate strategies. 3) Possible ocean "zoning." 4) Ensure communication with bottom end users. 5) Make sure current, accurate information is being used in research and decisions.

Addressing **Marine Resource Stewardship**: 1) Emphasis was again expressed regarding the need for current information and facts on which to base decisions regarding, among other things, dealing with oil spills. 2) Habitat mapping be done. 3) Clarification of what OPWG is looking at for marine reserves and marine protected areas. 4) Uplands need to be considered in any marine resource management context. 5) Build a marine protected area data base and define what a marine protected area is. 6) Regarding coastal energy development, the moratorium on oil and gas exploration should be permanent, and other opportunities for energy sources such as wind and wave which should be explored. 7) The uncertainty of climate change needs to be considered in everything to do with marine resource management. 8) Is the OPWG interacting with NOAA to enhance offshore aquaculture in the state and will the State have any input regarding management of offshore aquaculture? There may be areas that are not appropriate for offshore aquaculture, and perhaps the concept of zoning for aquaculture should be considered.

Comment/questions regarding **Research, Observation and Education**: 1) There is an overlap between issues for the work group and what the Sanctuary has been looking at for a long time, and because of the parallels between the goals of both groups, there could be a lot of benefit from

working together. 2) Need for long-term monitoring. 3) Coordination of research between state agencies, the Tribes and OCNMS. 4) Create a central clearinghouse for the fisheries issues. 5) Need emphasis on fresh water aquifers along the coast. 6) Create central location through which to funnel research.

Comment/questions regarding **Economic Development**: 1) Need focus on tourism and develop alternatives for “off” season. 2) Emphasis on development of alternative energy sources. 3) Emphasis on infrastructure (sewer, water, roads). 4) Enhancements to fisheries is key. 5) Sedimentation problems need to be addressed. 6) Ocean research and education desperately needed with several agencies sharing the same location, sharing the same educational opportunities. 7) Make sure research information is current so decisions are being made on current, accurate data. 8) Find a way to blend rules and regulations of state, federal, international and sanctuary in such a way that will still encourage and bring economic development. 9) Different projects that have been or are currently being considered: Aqua Energy; Pacific Cable Crossing; Sea Breeze; Aqua Ventures.

Comments/questions regarding **Education**: 1) Educational opportunities and services available to the general population on the north beaches are decreasing, with the most highly educated, technical people being on the Indian Reservations. 2) UW at the Olympic Natural Resources Center has been working toward getting the young people in rural communities engaged in their environment to help facilitate their education in math and science. For the last three years, UW has sponsored intensive educational workshops for teachers in rural area where they learn to apply mathematics into a natural resource topics and help teachers integrate that into their curriculum, with the idea of exciting the students in these scientific areas. In the Forks area, there is a lot of working going on in bioenergy and how communities can use bioenergy in their communities. 3) Any kind of education emphasis needs to have a strategic plan because it is a multi-faceted component. 4) Need to get a sense of needs from each community and it needs to be looked at as a coastal education plan. 5) The work group has a unique opportunity to provide leadership to the state of Washington regarding the ocean and its resources, and make recommendations on setting policies and standards for the future.

Terrie reminded SAC members they should put down written comments which will be forwarded to OPWG, but clarified that comments will express views of individual SAC members and are not necessarily endorsed by the SAC as a whole.

Public Comment: Polly Dyer reported that Olympic Coast Alliance recently put out their quarterly review. Their acoustics committee is looking into not only what happens under water but also what happens above water that affects animals and people. Jim Davis, Executive Director, who is a member of the Governor’s Oil Council, has been presenting public programs regarding oil spills. A Wilderness Conference will be held in 2008. One thing OCA would like to look at during that conference is ocean wilderness.

Presentation by Elin Storey, Washington State Department of Ecology (*PowerPoint presentation available upon request*). Elin Storey outlined the Department of Ecology proposed Oil Spill Contingency rules, including areas most in need of protection from spills, assessing potential for a spill (including transfer of products), determining placement of oil spill equipment and setting response time requirements for getting oil spill equipment on the scene. The three major sections to the rules are: planning standards, drills and primary response contractor. A draft of the proposed rules will be available soon, with an opportunity for public comment, and hearings in July. The proposed rules will be available on the DOE website. DOE hopes to have the rules finalized in August and effective in late September. Discussion followed, including the fact there will not be a SAC meeting between the time the rules are released and the time they become effective. Bill Arntz **moved** that the Superintendent be empowered to draft a comment letter to OPWG which would reflect the SAC's view of the proposed rules, based upon discussions of the SAC today regarding the proposed rules. **Motion seconded**. After considerable discussion, the **motion failed**. Terrie polled the voting members as to availability for a teleconference during the first two weeks of July to vote on draft comments. After discussion, Terrie clarified the proposed procedure: SAC members will be responsible for reviewing the draft rules and submitting their comments to Terrie prior to the teleconference; those comments will be compiled into a draft response; the draft response will be circulated to SAC members, and the teleconference is for the purpose of voting on the draft response.

Superintendent's Report: Carol Bernthal reported that based on the resolution adopted by the SAC, a letter was submitted commenting on the draft flow chart clarifying the relationship and processes between the National Marine Sanctuary Act and Magnuson Stevens Act. After compiling and reviewing the numerous comments, the goal is to have a revised draft by the end of June or July. It should be noted the final products will be guidelines, not regulations. One proposed provision in reauthorization of the Magnuson Stevens Act was that sanctuaries' regulations be revised and certified for consistency with the MSA, which is different than what is currently contained in the NMSA. However, that provision was stricken. The House will soon vote on the bill. NMSA will come up for reauthorization sometime in the next year. Draft EIS for Channel Islands Management Plan has been released for public comment but does not include any specific provisions on marine reserves or boundary level adjustment for the sanctuary boundaries which will be under a separate environmental document. It does have a number of regulatory changes regarding water quality and maritime heritage, emergency response and preparedness. Release of the Draft EIS for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands is anticipated soon. Major activities about to take place or which have taken place within OCNMS, deep sea coral and sponge research cruise May 22 to June 5 in the northern portion of the sanctuary at depths between 80 and 300 meters. The results will be posted on the Office of Ocean Exploration website as well as OCNMS website within a couple of weeks after the cruise is completed. Habitat mapping cruise took place in early April and 99.22 square nautical miles were surveyed. The sanctuary recently acquired, at no cost, a digital side scan which can be used off the Tatoosh. Monthly marine bird surveys have begun, with the goal of getting a better handle on the seasonal variability and distribution of birds as they occur within the sanctuary. In

late April completed the sea floor sonar surveys for the new route for the PC-1 cable for those sections which cannot be buried. Will be meeting with Tyco and PCL to look at the actual route for re-installation of the cable, which may happen this summer or next summer. Deployed the seasonal mooring network which is monitoring water quality conditions. Coastal clean-up was April 22, with 751 volunteers who collected 20 tons of marine debris from Cape Flattery to Ocean Shores. A five-week training session for docents at Olympic Coast Discovery Center has begun. The sanctuary is waiting for the release of Aqua Energy Draft Environmental Assessment, which will probably be out for public comment in the next month.

Council of Chairs: Terrie gave a brief report on the SAC Chairs and Coordinators Meeting held in Washington D.C. in late April. There were three half-day sessions which Terrie felt were especially valuable: fishing regulations; oil and gas; and acoustics. There was a briefing on the budget and new performance standards for Advisory Councils that are being crafted. A more thorough report will be given at the September SAC meeting. Steve Joner indicated the most lively discussions occurred around the fisheries regulations in sanctuaries. After Steve's report and additional discussion, Rebecca Post **nominated Fan Tsao** to be the OCNMS representative to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council in California in June. If there are funds available to send Fan to the June meeting, and if her calendar permits, she will attend. More formal, long-term action will be taken on this topic at the September meeting.

Meeting Comments/ Future Agenda/Adjourn: Terrie reminded the SAC members of the need to review the draft DOE oil spill rules and participate in the teleconference in July. The next meeting will be September 22 in Forks.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.